

House we passed an economic stimulus package, a ban on human cloning, a faith-based bill, an energy bill, just to name a few. What action has the other body taken on these items in response? Absolutely none.

To borrow a word from the majority leader in the other body, this lack of action is disappointing.

All of us in Congress are sent here to get a job done. The leader of the other body should not be allowed to single-handedly derail the people's business.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the people on the other side of the Capitol to put business over politics and allow votes on these important bills.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Once again, the Chair will admonish Members not to characterize the action or inaction of the other body.

PROTECTING OUR NEIGHBORS

(Mr. INSLEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, one of the real bright spots following September 11 in this country has been the number of times that Americans have stood up for tolerance and against hate. Last weekend I was at the Northgate Mosque north of Seattle to visit a mosque where people had actually tried to burn down the mosque. When I got there, there were four people standing out in front of the mosque waving at people driving by, and I asked folks in the mosque what those folks were doing. They said that they were a neighborhood watch guard that had been established by the neighbors of the mosque, none of whom were Muslim, of the Muslim faith, to guard the mosque.

I think there has been a lot of good sides that we have shown the world of protecting our neighbors in this regard.

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Now the U.S. Congress ought to do its part and pass the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act so that we can help local law enforcement help the folks in these neighborhoods protect those who are the subject of hate.

That is the American message, and I think it would be a good holiday statement by the U.S. House of Representatives.

LIFE LION 15TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. GEKAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, Hershey, Pennsylvania, of course, is known throughout the world as the chocolate

capital of the world, but there is another institution in Hershey which also is well known and well accepted in the larger community. That is the Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

One of the fantastic services they provide is what is called the Life Lion, L-I-O-N, Life Lion service of helicopter emergency retrieval of accident victims and emergency victims of all types for transportation to the Medical Center, or for transportation from the medical center to another institution that is more specialized in the kind of medical services required. This helicopter unit is made up of a pilot, a paramedic, and a flight nurse, and is nonstop throughout all the days and all the weeks of the year.

What is important for us, and why I bring it to Members' attention here today, is that this has been serving as a model throughout the Nation for similar types of services, and today they are celebrating 15 years of excellent service to the community.

H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. DEGETTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year a young man in Colorado was brutally beaten and left for dead in southwestern Colorado because he was transgendered and openly gay. His attacker left him in the cold night to die alone, and his body was later found in the advanced stages of decomposition with a broken skull and a slash on his abdomen.

Despite the fact that the attacker later bragged about "killing a fag," the crime has yet to be declared a hate crime, and local prosecutors are without resources to fully investigate the crime.

That is why I rise today to call upon the House to pass H.R. 1343, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. This bill would provide Federal financial and technical assistance to State and local governments to prosecute these horrifying hate crimes and would allow the Federal Government to prosecute crimes where State or local authorities refuse to act.

Congress must pass H.R. 1343 to bring justice for this young man's death and the many hate crimes throughout America.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR JAMES HENSIEN OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major James Hensien of the United States Marine Corps, who has spent the

past year working in my office as Marine Corps Fellow.

As part of the fellowship program, Major Hensien has exemplified the impeccable characteristics that one would expect from an officer of the United States Marines.

Major Hensien has played a key role in my office, advising me on military affairs, both nationally and within my Virginia district.

As Major Hensien's 1-year fellowship comes to a close, I would be doing our Nation a disservice if I failed to recognize Major Hensien and the Marine Corps Fellowship Program for the outstanding service and contributions they have given to Congress and America.

I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service this past year and extend my compliments to the United States Marine Corps Fellowship Program for their continued pursuit of excellence. Major Hensien is a credit to the Marine Corps, and an example of the quality of our men and women in uniform.

Once again, I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service and wish him God speed in all of his future endeavors.

HATE CRIME PREVENTION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise again to support the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001, introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS). The act promotes a strict enforcement of hate crimes, providing Federal assistance to States and local jurisdictions to prosecute these cowardly crimes.

In my own district, in the city of Azusa, we have experienced several hate crimes. In fact, in 1999, 11 hate crimes were reported, Latinos fighting with African Americans. Unfortunately, in this past year, Azusa has already experienced nine hate crimes alone, and those were the only ones that were reported. What about the ones that were not reported?

Earlier this month, a Molotov cocktail was maliciously thrown at three different homes, African American families, and almost killed a young child. In one of these outrageous attacks, the bomb landed in the bedroom of a 6-year-old boy.

We must stand to protect our children and communities from these hateful actions. I want to be able to tell the people in my district that here in Washington, D.C. we are doing something about hate crimes. We need to empower our law enforcement and give more support to combat hate crimes.

AMERICA'S BLOOD SUPPLY READINESS MUCH IMPROVED

(Mr. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw my colleagues' attention to largely overlooked yet significant accomplishments on the homeland security front.

Before the tragic events of September 11, the United States had a blood inventory of about 2 to 3 days. Critical blood shortages often meant cancellation of elective surgery and a national vulnerability to any sudden and widespread need for blood.

Today, thanks to hundreds of thousands who have donated blood, and to the American Red Cross working tirelessly to collect it, we have tripled our supply to a 10-day national inventory of liquid red cells. This means enough blood to treat the immediate needs of 50,000 critically injured patients; and as a physician, I understand just how important that is.

However, blood is a perishable commodity, and sustaining an adequate supply will require 25,000 donations a day. That is why it is critical to our homeland health security that we encourage the national habit of giving blood twice a year.

I hope all of us will encourage our friends and family to do so by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

CALLING FOR A VOTE ON H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, before September's explosions of hatred, we needed hate crimes legislation to help local jurisdictions across the country deal with crimes motivated by prejudice. After, as we experienced the hate-filled behavior of some of our own people, the need is underscored.

Since then, word has come to us at home and on the Hill of wanton attacks upon Americans of Arab and Muslim descent. In my hometown, young people fueled by hatred brutally attacked a young Hoosier Air Force veteran of Thai descent, intent upon vengeance.

Hatred is a thing bad in itself. Unchecked, it is our bitter enemy. When it powers violence, its reach is extended into the realm where terror is born, multiplying its victims.

202 of us have cosponsored H.R. 1343. I implore those who control the flow of business here to let us vote, Mr. Speaker, to underscore the determination of this House that hatred has no home in our land.

IT IS TIME FOR THE SENATE MAJORITY TO ACT

(Mr. WELDON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last month, prior to Thanksgiving, the House passed the Economic Security Recovery Act. The other body has yet to act on this important legislation.

The Associated Press recently quoted the Senate majority leader as saying an economic growth bill is "not as front burner an issue" as other important business.

I beg to differ. The House has done its work. We passed a solid bill to jumpstart America's economy, create jobs, and restore consumer confidence; and that spending puts more money in the pockets of working Americans.

Mr. Speaker, President Bush has asked the Congress to get to work and get something done on this important issue. So far the leaders in the Senate majority have failed to heed the call and are refusing to act on this legislation.

To ignore the plight of millions of Americans who are hurting right now because they are unemployed is wrong and irresponsible.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GUTKNECHT). The Chair would once again admonish Members that it is a violation of House rules to disparage action or inaction by the other body.

LET US PASS A REAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE WHICH HELPS HARD-WORKING AMERI- CANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I could not help but join my colleagues in asking that the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001 be brought to the floor of the House immediately. There is a need for this Nation to stand up against hateful acts.

But I come this morning to speak about something that I think is overwhelming to many Americans. It is the season to be jolly, but not for all. Unemployment is at a 6-year high.

I want to join the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MOORE) in asking for an immediate freestanding bill to help the now 8 million unemployed Americans, families like those in my district, whose only breadwinner earned \$75,000. He took care of a family of eight. Now he earns zero because he has lost his job.

We need a bill now that extends unemployment insurance benefits, that provides help for health insurance coverage. We do not need the Republican large corporate tax cut of \$26 billion. Let us pass a real economic stimulus package that stimulates the economy for hard-working Americans who have now lost their jobs.

Let this truly be a season to be jolly for all of the children and hard-working Americans that have made this country great.

WE MUST PRIORITIZE SPENDING TO AVOID LEAVING A BIGGER DEBT FOR OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. SMITH of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, this is a great opportunity for me to talk about spending because one of this body's most capable chairmen of the Committee on Appropriations, BILL YOUNG, is here before us. I see a great challenge facing us next year. With revenues down and spending for the aftermath of Sept. 11 up, it is going to be a challenge to hold the line on a budget. Increasing our debt means that we are leaving a larger mortgage to our kids and our grandkids.

With any emergency, whether a business, or a family, or a government, we should start prioritizing. The family or business would reduce unnecessary spending so as to have money for the emergency.

Here in Washington we should look at some less-important expenditures of the Federal Government or those that can be delayed. Use the money saved for the important things Congress should do to help strengthen the economy and fight the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, I would conclude by reporting that our current debt is \$5.879 trillion; our debt limit is \$5.95 trillion. If we do not prioritize, we are going to be increasing our debt and leaving a greater burden for our kids.

AMERICA IS FIRING THE START- ING GUN ON A NEW ARMS RACE

(Mr. MARKEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, this Administration has Arms Control Amnesia. The President has decided to unilaterally withdraw from the Anti-ballistic Missile Treaty. He and his administration do this without really fully understanding what the response from China will be.

In fact, if we decide that we are going to attempt to deploy a system, by the way, one on which we have already spent \$50 billion without any real success, then there is a very high probability that there will be a dramatic increase in Chinese expenditures on their missiles that will be pointed at the United States. We have already been through that arms race for generations. It is time for us to end that race.

The ostensible justification for pulling out, however, is September 11. That event was not caused by the absence of a missile defense; it is because we did not have a policy of thinking about